

# September 18, 2013 NFLA Board Meeting

## 1. Members Present

The meeting was held at the Community Hall and all board members were present: Karen McDonough, Donna Harrison, Bonny Ogle, Flannery Coates, Alan McNeil, Larry Kinsolving, Allen Chrisman, and Debo Powers.

## 2. Call to Order

President Karen McDonough called the meeting to order at 4:32.

## 3. Minutes

Bonny reviewed the minutes from the last board meeting. Debo made a motion to approve the minutes and Larry seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

## 4. Annual Budget

Many issues were discussed regarding the draft budget presented by the budget committee and the following decisions were made:

--Special projects, such as the floor project, will not be reflected in the operating budget. There will be a special projects budget that will reflect fund raising for specific projects and decisions to fund projects from the savings account.

--The board agreed that the finances of the North Fork Patrol should be separate from the NFLA and that landowners should send their checks directly to the NF Patrol. This will avoid any confusion regarding the fact that NFLA and the Patrol are two separate organizations. Bonny and Karen will discuss this at the next meeting of the NF Patrol. We will continue to include a NF Patrol enrollment form in our newsletters and ask them to help defray the cost of mailing.

--The board agreed that we need to have a balanced budget. They noted that the draft budget had a large deficit due to the increase in liability insurance cost. In order to create a balanced budget, it was noted that either expenses had to be decreased or income had to be increased or both. Every line item in the budget was discussed and ways were found to decrease our expenses.

--The board agreed that a letter will be sent to all North Fork landowners in October to invite them to join NFLA. The NF Patrol form will be included in this letter as well. Landowners will be informed that the spring newsletter will only be mailed to members of NFLA who have paid their dues by March 1. It was noted that others can still access the calendar on the NFLA website and bulletin board outside the Hall. This decision will help decrease the cost of the newsletter mailing.

--In order to decrease expenses, the board agreed that the budget will not include any food costs except for Thanksgiving. All other events will have to be pot luck. The board agreed that although NFLA opens the Thanksgiving dinner to everyone (not just NFLA members) that non-NFLA members will be asked to make a donation to defray the cost of the meat. In addition, the board will cover the main dish for the Interlocal meeting by either cooking quantities of food or personally paying for hamburgers to be provided. Participants will be asked to contribute a dish as well.

--The board will not purchase Directors and Officers Insurance this year in order to lower budget expenses.

--Flannery read a letter from the Grobe's to the South Directors in support of increasing dues to bring in more income for NFLA. The board agreed that despite all of the budget cuts that an increase in dues will need to happen in order to achieve a balanced budget. Although the bylaws give the board the power to raise dues, the board decided that the issue will be voted on by the membership at the July business meeting in 2014. If passed, it will take affect at the beginning of the next fiscal year on September 1, 2014. The board will recommend that dues increase from \$10 to \$15 per person per year.

--The budget committee will revise the draft budget to reflect all of the above decisions and present the revised draft at the October board meeting.

#### **5. Maintenance Report**

Allen Chrisman reported that the back porch has been re-built and the project has been documented on the NFLA website. The board agreed that this will be regarded as a special project rather than maintenance and repair since the porch had to be completely re-built. Allen also reported that the new signs for the Terrian and Sondreson pictures in the Hall have been posted. In addition, he said that Tom Edwards has replaced the oil in the generator.

#### **6. Hazardous Fuels Grant**

Allen Chrisman reported that after sending the letter about a fuels mitigation grant to the adjoining landowners, he realized how much work we need to do on our own property. The board enthusiastically supported the idea of volunteer work parties during the spring or summer of 2014 to thin the trees in order to decrease the canopy and protect the Hall from wildfire.

#### **7. Computer/Printer**

Bonny announced that Bill Walker is working to refurbish a donated computer and printer to be designated for NFLA business and used by the Treasurer.

#### **8. Floor Project**

Alan McNeil reported on the bids that he had received for the floor project. The cost for re-finishing the dance floor plus tile under the wood stove and vinyl in the kitchen is greater than the amount raised in the auction. After much discussion, the board agreed to spend \$5388 for the floor re-finishing and the tile under the wood stove and postpone the vinyl in the kitchen until more fundraising can occur next year. If the work can be scheduled in the next month, we will have a work party to clear the floor of equipment and furniture so that the work can proceed. If not, the project will happen in the spring.

#### **9. Name Change**

Karen read a letter from the Sullivan's in favor of changing the name to North Fork Improvement Association. After each board member weighed in on the issue, it was decided that (1) we would not try to come up with another name besides either NFLA or NFIA, (2) we needed to research the costs of changing the name, both financial costs and amount of volunteer work required, and (3) the board will write a position paper spelling out all of the issues and its recommendation to the membership. The following board members volunteered to do the work: Larry will search the state records to determine the cost of changing our name. Flannery

will talk to Pat Cole to find out what the name change cost us in the past. Debo will estimate how many hours of work would be required to change the website and history project materials. Bonny will estimate the number of hours that it will require from the Treasurer. Allen will write a draft position paper to bring to the October board meeting.

**10. Hall Chair Rental**

Alan McNeil reported on a request to rent the folding chairs in the Hall for a private outdoor activity. The board reiterated its former decision to not allow the use of our tables and chairs away from the Hall.

**11. Sign for Community Hall**

Paul Genovese has offered to make the sign for the Community Hall. Debo will contact him to thank him for the offer and give him the measurements.

**12. Next Board Meeting**

The date for the October Board Meeting was changed from October 16 to October 9 at 4:30 at the Hall. Debo will contact Patti to have this announced on the website.

**13. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50.

Minutes submitted by Debo Powers.